

What is the Family Drug Treatment Court?

The Family Drug Treatment Court (FDTC), is part of the Children's Court. It is a team of professionals that includes a Judge, Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare (BMCW), District Attorney, Guardian ad Litem, parent's attorney and substance abuse treatment specialists. The shared purpose of the team is providing intense support and accountability to help you succeed in your recovery, improve parenting skills, achieve stability and independence and make a safe and permanent home for your child(ren).

Court Requirements and Phases

FDTC is a 12-18 month program with a **four phase** approach to substance abuse treatment. You are expected to cooperate with the service plan developed by Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare case worker and the substance abuse treatment providers and successfully complete all four phases of FDTC program.

After you successfully complete any phase of the FDTC, you can apply to advance to the next Phase.

Phase I

Focus: To support your choice to live a drug-free life and start living a drug-free life.

Goal: Detox and start abstinence, obtain health care and other benefits; enter community based treatment to begin recovery; maintain/re-establish contact with child(ren); and evaluate additional family needs.

Requirements to advance to next Phase:

- Minimum of 30 consecutive days clean random drug tests.
- Weekly court appearances and entry of a CHIPS dispositional order.
- If child(ren) are placed outside of the home, participation in scheduled visits.
- Consistently show interest in learning how to safely parent without drugs or alcohol.
- Consistently comply with all treatment and case management requirements.
- Minimum of 60 days in Phase I.

Phase II

Focus: Challenge you to confront the reasons for your addiction.

Goal: Stabilize and progress in treatment; confront reasons for use/abuse; set goals for education and employment; identify community services to meet the family needs; and connect the family to the community.

Requirements to advance to next Phase:

- Minimum of 60 consecutive days clean weekly random drug test.,
- At least bi-weekly court appearances.
- If child(ren) are placed outside of the home, participation in scheduled visits.
- Consistently attend and participate in childcare and treatment activities.
- Consistently recognize the need for assistance in treatment and parenting and rely on assistance.
- Begin to translate skills learned into everyday behavior in treatment and parenting.
- Minimum of 90 days in Phase II.

Phase III

Focus: Your change in behavior moves to self-sufficiency.

Goal: Begin to promote self-sufficiency; internalize recovery tools and develop coping

skills; complete treatment; vocation, education and employment progress.

Requirements to advance to next Phase:

- Minimum of 90 consecutive days clean weekly random drug tests.
- At least monthly court appearances.
- Adequate housing for self and child(ren).
- If the child(ren) are out of your home, achieve permanency.
- Show adequate progression in a vocational/educational program.
- Consistently meet needs of child(ren) including medical, dental and educational needs.
- Put child(ren)'s needs ahead of own needs, and assure child(ren) is safe when meeting own needs.
- Minimum of 120 days in Phase III.

Phase IV

Focus: Transition to independent, safe parenting without BMCW supervision.

Goal: Obtain GED or other vocational training; stable employment; stable housing; and fully reintegrate into family and/or community.

Requirements to advance:

- Maintain abstinence.
- Maintain stable housing and employment.
- Court appearances as needed.
- Attendance/participation in after-care.
- Able to cope with parenting drug-free, using healthy support systems and coping skills.
- Apply for graduation from the Family Drug Treatment Court.

Why Should I Participate in the Family Drug Treatment Court?

1. You should participate in the Family Drug Treatment Court because you know you **can** do it!
2. You should participate in the Family Drug Treatment Court because you deserve another chance.
3. You should participate in the Family Drug Treatment Court because we all care about you and are committed to helping you succeed.
4. You should participate in the Family Drug Treatment Court because you want to be healthy and provide for your child(ren).

Possible Incentives (Rewards):

- Applause
- Certificates
- Candy
- Flowers
- Sobriety tokens
- Promotion to next Phase
- Movie Tickets
- Personal hygiene baskets
- Manicures & pedicures
- Toys for children
- Gift cards
- Phone cards

Possible Sanctions:

- Judicial reprimand
- Increased court appearances and case management contact
- Community service hours
- Phase demotion
- Increased drug screens
- Remaining until the end of court

- Writing or reading assignments
- Termination from the program

How do you get started?

1. Complete a FDTC application with your attorney.
2. Complete an AODA assessment as arranged by your case worker at one of the following locations:
3. Attend a FDTC Friday meeting to meet the family drug treatment team.

Milwaukee County



Family Drug Treatment Court

Welcome to the Milwaukee County Family Treatment Court

This is a voluntary program designed to break the cycle of substance abuse by providing timely, family-centered substance abuse treatment and supportive services to parents or guardians, with the ultimate goal of improving safety, well being, and permanence for children.